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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/035,527 | 12/29/2001 | Lance Cole Wright | TI-32923 | 4689 |

7590 11/26/2003
Mike Skrehot
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EXAMINER

VESPERMAN, WILLIAM C

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2813

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/035,527

Applicant(s)

WRIGHT, LANCE COLE

Examiner

William C. Vesperman

Art Unit

2813

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9,10 and 12-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9,10 and 12-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 10
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment of October 14, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 9, line 8, states "the first surface abutting the first cover and the second surface exposed" and lines 12 and 13 state "orientation wherein the second surface abuts the second cover so that the article is presented with the first **side** exposed following removal of the **second cover**".

In addition, Claim 13, line 13, states "is presented with the first **side** exposed following removal of the first cover".

Conversely, the Summary of the Invention states "Next, the articles are inserted into the apertures at the work station, using, in effect, the first removable cover as a "bottom" against which the articles abut. In the case of BGA devices, the balls thereof abut and are supported by the first cover and the opposed surface of the BGA devices are exposed at the work station. Now the other ends of the blind apertures are closed, conveniently by a second removable cover. This renders the apertures closed apertures. Thereafter, the member is inverted. This inverts the articles converting the

first cover into a "top" cover and the second cover a "base" which supports the devices in their inverted orientation. This inverted orientation in the case of BGA devices is ball-side-up. Removal of the first cover, now the "top" cover, exposes the inverted articles, specifically the BGA device balls, the orientation preferred by customers".

Therefore, it appears to the examiner that Claim 9, lines 12 and 13 should state "orientation wherein the second surface abuts the second cover so that the article is presented with the first **surface** exposed following removal of the **first** cover".

In addition, it appears to the examiner that Claim 13, line 13, should state "is presented with the first **surface** exposed following removal of the first cover".

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gregory (US 6,273,310 B1) teaches a portable laptop computer work station.

Turner (US 4,456,359) teaches a flat photographic sheet.

Tanaka et al. (US 5,427,492) teaches methods for shifting goods and apparatus.

Pakeriasamy (US 5,848,702) teaches a tray with a flippable cover.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Vesperman whose telephone number is 703-305-1939. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri., 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on 703-308-4940. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2813

numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9318 for regular communications and 703-872-9319 for After Final communications

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-3080956.

WV
wcv

Art Unit 2813

November 18, 2003


ERIK J. KIELIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER